

CHINA MAIL



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COMMENT OF THE DAY

A Break In The Clouds

NATIONAL pressures are combined at present with international complications to force the issue of disarmament. President Eisenhower is in sharp conflict with Congress over the vast defence appropriations, which the House Committee wants to cut by more than US\$2,680 millions.

The Kremlin, now involved in a tremendous decentralisation of administration of industrial and economic authority, professes to be more convinced than ever that the United States wants war. It would presumably be all the more eager to cease the ineradicable negatives and evasions which have characterised the Soviet attitude all through.

The Nato Powers are similarly in a dilemma over the British decision and the German anxiety arising therefrom. There is still the difficulty that Germany insists on the tenacious preservation of the link between her re-unification and disarmament. Whatever is done there must be some contribution to both if real progress is to be made.

MEANWHILE the signs and tokens of a break in the deadlock are growing. Admiral Radford, when he sounded off loudly earlier in the week, betrayed his own fears. He felt the ground beginning to move beneath his feet. The Secretary of Defence still keeps faith with the Service Chiefs and wants the proposed cuts restored.

But the President himself, after reviewing with the National Security Council the progress of disarmament negotiations with the Soviet Union, has decided to send Mr Harold Stassen back to the Five-Power Disarmament talks in London. They had been adjourned so that the representatives could confer with their Governments. This action supported the hint that the President was about to take a major policy decision.

SUCH a decision could only be in the direction of a positive step forward. The last proposal from Moscow was that an aerial inspection scheme be agreed on to cover Siberia, Alaska, and the Western half of the United States, an agreement on a reduction of armed forces and other steps. It was President Eisenhower himself who first proposed in 1955 an aerial inspection scheme.

It was said that atomic and hydrogen bombs would not be covered in this first-stage agreement. But other arms, including planes capable of delivering nuclear bombs, would be reduced in number.

TOP LEADERS

Details already disclosed of the plan now being considered in Washington call for a small cut in arms, covering missiles, ships, tanks and atomic bombs as a first step. It is also provided that nations not now possessing atomic weapons should not develop them. It is not merely a question of money that divides the President and Congress at the moment. There is a deepening impatience at the long frustration on disarmament. This time there must be, and almost certainly will be, real progress.

In Your Saturday Mail

Tomorrow the China Mail will introduce its new daily serial: A Man of the Century — Sir Edmund Hillary by Brian Adams.

Among the many other features will be:

★ Suez: What folly brought Britain to shame? — Sefton Delmer, Derek Marks and Frederick Ellis.

★ We Could Still Wipe that Smile off Nasser's face — Hugh Fraser, MP.

★ Britain has Nasser ON TAP — John Redfern.

★ The Vanishing British Communist Party — Les Armour.

★ Mikoyan, the Corn Flakes Commissioner — Les Armour.

★ Lord Salisbury and the Noble House of Cecil — Sir Beaufort Bassett, MP.

And then there will be show business by Alan Brent and David Lewin; film records, pages for women and children, not forgetting The Week In Pictures and Home-made Pictorial.

NEW DISARMAMENT PLAN

'Small Slice Arms Cut' Covers Most Weapons

Washington, May 23. The new "first step" disarmament plan under discussion with Russia calls for a "small slice arms cut" covering missiles, ships, tanks and atomic bombers, it was revealed today.

Other parts of the plan call for an aerial-ground inspection to be set up on a test basis and proposals looking toward a reduction in military manpower and defence spending by the United States, Russia and other nations.

Any initial East-West agreement on arms reduction also would provide that weapons taken out of US or Soviet stockpiles be delivered to international disarmament depots, which would be under careful inspection.

The plan further provides that nations which do not now have atomic weapons would not develop them. At present only the United States, Britain and Russia have atomic or hydrogen bombs in their arsenals.

Some details of the plan now being considered by the United States were disclosed by the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, and the presidential disarmament adviser, Mr Harold Stassen, briefed Senate leaders on negotiations with Russia to date.

DOUBTS VOICED

Any agreement for arms reductions or setting up an aerial-ground inspection zone would have to be presented to the Senate for approval.

Some members, including the Senate Republican leader, Mr William Knowland, have voiced doubts. However, chances are the pact would be approved.

Mr Stassen, who returns to London on Sunday for further United Nations disarmament talks, told a Senate Foreign Relations Sub-committee the negotiations were aimed at "a first step agreement for a small slice cut with inspection."

It was said that atomic and hydrogen bombs would not be covered in this first-stage agreement. But other arms, including planes capable of delivering nuclear bombs, would be reduced in number.

No precise formula for cutting major arms has been established. But officials at the London talks, attended by the United States, Russia, Britain, France and Canada, have been talking in terms of a 10 to 15 per cent cut.

TOP LEADERS

Mr Stassen was accompanied by the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, at a Senate Foreign Relations Sub-committee hearing to which top Senate leaders were invited. Earlier, Mr Stassen met President Eisenhower and the policy-making National Security Council.

Mr Dulles told the Senators the danger and cost of atomic and hydrogen weapons were so great that the United States must press for "limited" disarmament agreement with Russia. Mr Stassen emphasised that the present goal was not "complete" but rather partial disarmament. —United Press.

ARCHBISHOP OF YORK BACKS UK H-BOMB

London, May 23. The Archbishop of York today fully backed Britain's possession of nuclear bombs as a deterrent against aggression.

RACING OFF REARMING RAAF DISCUSSIONS

San Francisco, May 23. An Australian defence mission, headed by the Defence Minister, Sir Philip McBride, arrived here today en route to Washington to discuss rearmament of the Royal Australian Air Force.

Sir Philip said his group, which includes Mr J. L. Knott, Secretary of the Department of Defence Production, would confer with US authorities so his government may "reach finality on types of aircraft to be acquired."

Fighter aircraft scheduled to be under discussion during the two to three weeks Sir Philip will be in Washington include planes equivalent in performance to the Lockheed F-104A (Star Fighter) and the C-130 Hercules, he said.

Sir Philip said general equipment discussions would be mainly exploratory and would result, he hoped, in a visit to Australia by a US technical mission.

Yesterday, the Australian Secretary of the Department of Defence, Mr E. W. Heale, arrived here and then left for Washington. Sir Philip and his party will leave by plane tomorrow. —United Press.

Lloyds Win Bet Against Twins

New York, May 23. Mrs Jean Blechman, 29, lost a 14 to 1 bet with Lloyds of London today when she gave birth to her fifth son.

Mrs Blechman and husband David, 33, of Freeport, New York, put up \$1,875 to cover the possibility that they might become the parents of their third set of twins. Lloyds of London would have paid out \$25,000 if twins had been born.

But the stork, which arrived at 6:22 pm, had only a single bundle.

However, the Blechmans kept up one tradition—the baby was a boy. They also have two sets of twin boys, six and four years old. —United Press.

STREET BOMBING

Buenos Aires, May 23. Three terrorist bombs went off here today, causing damage and injuries to passers-by.

A fourth was found on the balcony of a general's home. It was removed and exploded on a football field. —China Mail Special.

Briton Faces Deportation From US

Bridgeport, Conn., May 23. A British subject faced deportation charges after being sentenced to the State prison today on a charge of robbery and violence.

Lesley Deshield, 30, was sentenced to a year and a day to three years by Judge John F. Cotter in the Superior Court.

Lesley pleaded guilty to striking the operator of a Norwalk liquor store on the head with a bottle and taking \$35 from a cash box on the afternoon of March 27.

Deshield's lawyer, Public Defender John F. McGowan, said Deshield is a British subject from Bermuda and faces deportation proceedings. —United Press.

US HAS HK WEATHER TROUBLE

Chicago, May 23. An unrelenting weather barrage sent new tornadic storms and crop-ruining floods rolling across America's midlands today.

Winds of hurricane force smashed Dallas and Fort Worth, leaving flash floods eight feet deep. Weather forecasters warned that more tornadoes might hit East Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

To the north and east, flood crests built up on the Missouri, Ohio and Mississippi rivers. More than 100 families were forced from their homes in Southern Illinois. Farm activity was far behind schedule in the Middle West and Plains stations, and crop damage in Oklahoma was already counted in the millions of dollars.

The United Press counted at least 54 weather-caused deaths since the latest weather onslaught opened up on Monday night with a tornado which ripped the Kansas City area. The newest fatality was one of those injured in the Kansas City twister, bringing the city's death toll to 39. —United Press.

USED THIRD DEGREE

Nicosia, May 23. A British judge today freed a Greek Cypriot journalist from a murder charge because the accused man's confession was obtained under third degree treatment.

Judge Shaw threw out a "confession" by Nicos Sampson because the defendant had been given treatment "which should not be meted out to any person whether convicted or unconvicted."

Sampson had been accused of murdering British police sergeant Cyril Thoroughgood on April 11.

Sampson was remanded in custody until next week on another charge—that he discharged a firearm during his arrest on January 30. —United Press.

Plane Blows Fuel Pump In Record Attempt

Fairbanks, May 23. BRITISH Canberra jet bomber attempting to set a record from London to Tokyo, flew a fuel pump about 300 miles southwest of here today and was forced to return to Ladd Air Force Base for repairs.

Wing Cmdr. R. F. Horner, pilot of the bomber, said he hoped to continue the trip early tonight or tomorrow morning.

The twin-engined plane, Aeris

Flight, returned here at 8:15 p.m.

Prior to the fuel pump trouble,

the Canberra was well ahead

of its schedule which called

for completion of the flight in

10 hours 55 minutes, at an

average speed of 400 miles

per hour.

The jet was 40 minutes late

of schedule when it first landed

at Ladd to refuel. Crashing at

50,000 feet, it was lined up

7 hours 45 minutes between

Iceland and Fairbanks. —

United Press.

1 & 1½ H.P.

AVAILABLE

KING'S PRINCESS

OPENS TO-DAY

At 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m. || At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



HOOVER LIBERTY

CAUSEWAY BAY TEL. 72371 KOWLOON TEL. 60140, 80248

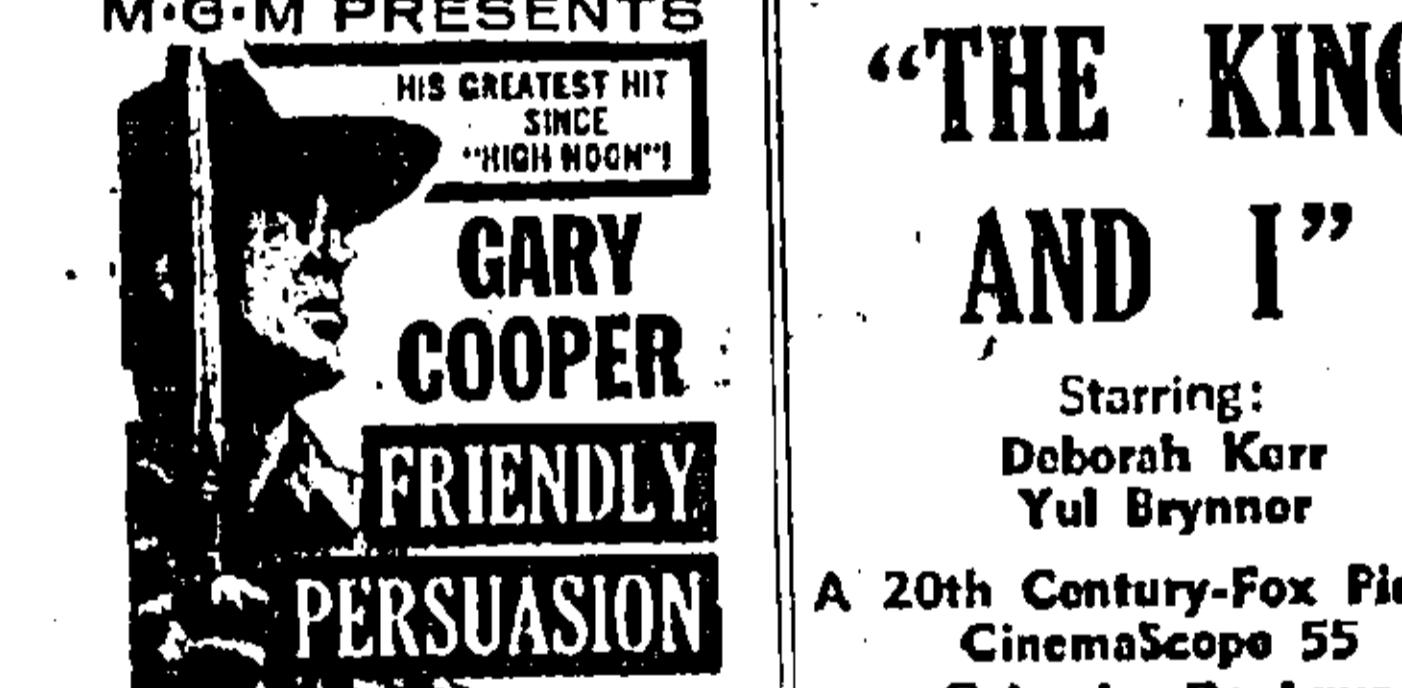
SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



ORIENTAL MAJESTIC

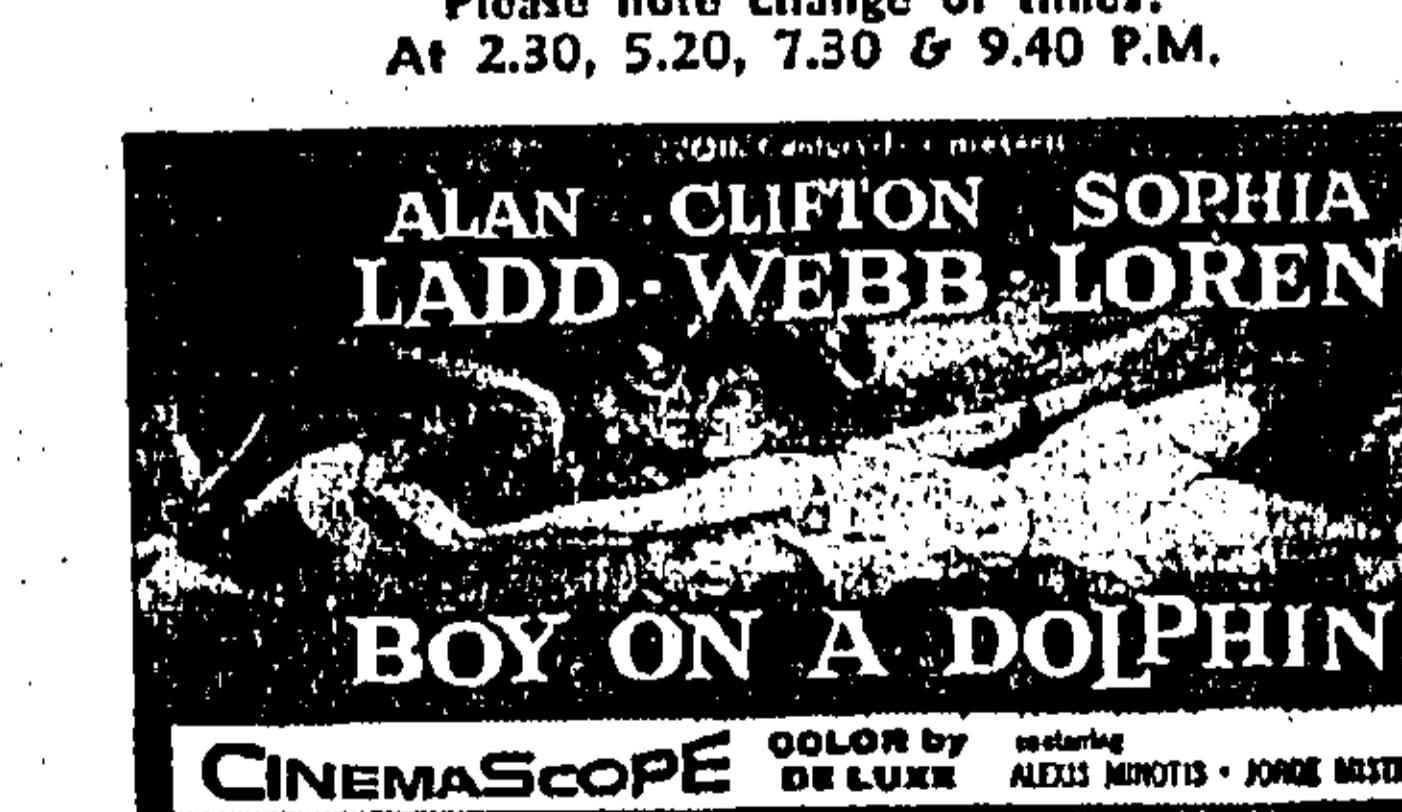
TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.WINNER OF CANNES FILM FESTIVAL THIS YEAR!
GOLDEN LAUREL AWARD!

M-G-M PRESENTS

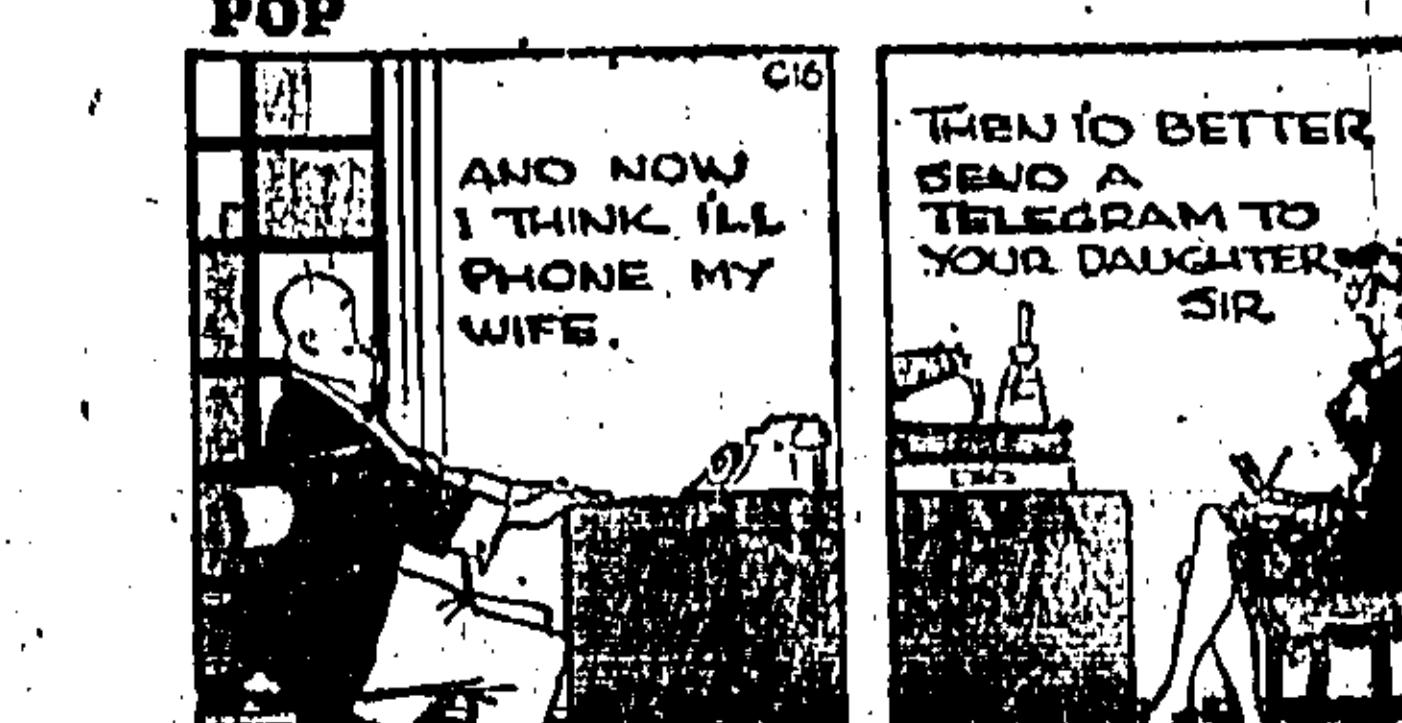


PROXY & BROADWAY

2ND BIG WEEK!

NOW SHOWING THE 8TH DAY!
Please note change of times:
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

POP



Russo-German Trade Talks Off?

BELIEF THAT NO LONGER WOOING BONN

By GERRY LONG

Record Broken—Flying Upside-Down



Tunisian Cabinet Recalls Envoys For Meeting

Tunis, May 23. The Tunisian Cabinet called an emergency session today to study France's surprise announcement it was cutting off all financial aid to its former protectorate because of Tunisian aid and comfort to the Algerian rebels.

The French aid amounted to about \$35,000,000 for the current year. Its abrupt stoppage strained already strained by other matters since Tunisia won its independence from France on March 20, 1960.

Official sources indicated Tunisian leaders would get

together with diplomatic representatives of other Western powers in an effort to obtain from other sources the help cut off by France. Tunisia, a lukewarm backer of the Eisenhower Doctrine, is getting \$11,500,000 in U.S. aid this year.

Some observers believed the cutting off of French aid may cost the West back in its efforts to woo North African Arab lands as a bulwark against Communism.

The Tunisian Cabinet today decided to recall all its envoys from Western and Arab countries for talks on steps to be taken following France's suspension of financial aid to Tunisia yesterday.

The decision was announced tonight by the Prime Minister, M. Habib Bourguiba, who said in a broadcast that the French move, made because of Tunisia's attitude on Algeria, broke an economic treaty agreed by France and Tunisia only a month ago.

The criticism was made at a public forum organised by the British European Association.

Mr Barry Baker, a non-member, told the meeting: "I am afraid we are making a very mistake if we think we can set ourselves apart, saying that we can run a better and must have separate schools already which have aroused serious antagonism."

He also accused Franco of failing to deliver promised arms to Tunisia on the ground that they might fall into the hands of Algerian insurgents, and of interfering in arms deals between Tunisia, Belgium, Sweden and Germany.—Reuter and United Press.

INTENTION

"There are sections of the population here who have openly stated that it is their intention to push the Europeans into the sea," he declared.

Europeans claimed no special privileges, but if there was a concerted effort to take from them what they felt they had a right to as ordinary members of the community, then a strong association could speak on their behalf.—Reuter.

Russian Tourists

Rome, May 23. Some 400 Soviet tourists arrived here this morning, the first Russian group this year to join the thousands of foreign tourists jamming Rome.

The Soviet visitors arrived at Naples earlier this morning aboard the Russian ship "Grozny," from Odessa in the Black Sea.—United Press.

Phoney business

"I WISH TO SPEAK TO YOUR MOTHER SO GET OFF THE PHONE."

REUBEN STERNBERG & CO. LTD.

Paris, May 23. Hollywood director Mike Todd bought three pictures — total cost \$8,000,000 francs (\$2,000)

as a special wedding anniversary present for his actress wife Elizabeth Taylor in Paris today.

When asked when the special

anniversary was, Todd replied:

"Well Saturday, of course, we

have a special wedding"

anniversary celebration every

Saturday night."—China Mail Special.

PRECIOUS DROPS FOR PRECIOUS MOMENTS.

CHERRY HEERING

GRUELING TEST FOR USAF MAN

Almagorod, N. Mex., May 23.

A 31-year-old American Air Force officer prepared today for one of the most grueling tests ever undergone by man, in which he will attempt to remain for 12 hours in a narrow sealed tube at an altitude of 95,000 feet.

The officer, Captain Kittinger, will take off in the next 48 hours in the tube, which is three feet in diameter and seven feet long, and hangs from a 200-foot balloon filled with non-inflammable helium.

Kittinger will remain in contact with the ground by means of radio equipment in the tube. His experiment will prepare the way for one by Major David Simons, who will seek early next month to attain 110,000 feet.

Simons intends to remain 24 hours at this height which is in the tenth and final non-explored layer of the earth's atmosphere.

If Kittinger reaches 95,000 feet, he will break the balloon altitude record of 76,000 which was set last November 8 by Malcolm Ross and Morton Lewis.—France Presse.

Today, Herr von Brentano, the West German Foreign Minister, asked Mr. Andrei Smirnov, the Soviet Ambassador, to secure an early reply from his Government to the West German offer of trade negotiations, usually well informed sources said.

Mr. Smirnov is aimed at clarifying the situation.

According to informed sources here, previous attempts by Herr Wilhelm Haas, the West German Ambassador in Moscow, to discover why the Soviet reply to the West German verbal note in delayed have met with evasive replies.—Reuter.

No Reply

The absence of a reply, and the tone of the Soviet's April 27 "Atomic Graveyard" note have led diplomatic circles here to believe that Moscow has lost interest in promoting good relations with Dr Adenauer.

Two reasons are put forward in these circles for the change in the Russian attitude:

1. The Russians were glad to have a strong Adenauer while they were re-establishing their firm hold of Eastern Europe, shaken by the events of last autumn in Poland and Hungary. The Poles, for example, might be less willing to loosen links with Moscow if their fear of a strong West German Government could be maintained.

With the settling down of the situation in Eastern Europe, and the strong support Moscow has received from Communist China, the need for a German "bogey man" has fallen off, some diplomatic sources consider.

2. Dr Adenauer has been in difficulties over his policy on atomic weapons, which he has refused to renounce for ever, as the opposition wants him to. Some diplomatic sources believe Moscow sees in this attitude, which the Chancellor himself thinks may be unpopular, a chance that he may lose the September 15 general election.

The feeling that Moscow is no longer wooing Bonn was confirmed in the opinion of diplomatic observers here by the recent letter sent by Marshal Bulganin.

The feeling that Moscow is no longer wooing Bonn was confirmed in the opinion of diplomatic observers here by the recent letter sent by Marshal Bulganin.

After about two hours the Royal party left the lodge. They returned home by another route which skirts the seashore and from which they could see the southernmost coast of Sweden.

After a private reception at the Canadian Embassy, the Queen drove to Britannia where she was entertaining King Frederik, Queen Ingrid, Princess Margrethe and other members of the Danish Royal family at a banquet.

The banquet marks the end of the official part of the visit. Afterwards Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip will drive to Fredensborg Castle near Elsinore to spend the next two days there as the private guests of King Frederik.—Reuter.

ANNIVERSARY

EACH SATURDAY

PARIS, MAY 23.

A mechanical hand cut a ribbon and peace-time development of atomic energy by American private enterprise took seven-league step forward.

Three men, representing science, private enterprise and government, started in motion a chain reaction yesterday that made the "hand" rise from the floor and cut the ribbon that officially opened General Electric Company's \$10 million Vandellos Atomic Laboratory.

It is America's largest privately financed atomic research plant aimed at developing cheap, plentiful power.

It will be used primarily to perfect nuclear fuels and furnaces but before the year is out a small amount of atomic electric power made here will flow into northern California homes.

—United Press.

EMPIRE

TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

COLONIAL PICTURES PRESENTS & WORLD PICTURES

VICTOR MICHAEL MATURE WILDERING

ANITA EKBERG

SHIRLEY TEMPLE

CHARLES TROTTER COOKE

JOHN SAXON LUANA Patten

EDWARD G. REED

DALE ROBERTSON

RONALD LEE

JOHN H. MILLER

CHARLES TROTTER COOKE

CHARLES TROT

MENDES-FRANCE RESIGNS FROM LEADERSHIP

SOVIET OCCUPATION OF SHIKOTAN AND HABOMAI

Washington, May 23.

Officials said today that the United States action in again challenging the Soviet occupation of Shikotan and the Habomai and southern Kurile Islands was undertaken deliberately to keep the matter alive in international opinion.

The State Department believed that the time had come to remind the world again that these Islands are Japanese territory which should be returned to that country, they added.

The United States raised the issue in a lengthy note to the Soviet Union demanding that Moscow pay \$756,000 for destroying a US Air Force plane over northern Japan in November 1954.

Illegal

The US contends the Soviet action in shooting down an American aircraft took place over international waters. Thus, the question of who has a right

to the Islands mentioned does not affect the claim. Nevertheless, American officials thought the renewal of the damage claim offered a good opportunity to point out that the Soviet Union is in "illegal" occupation of the Habomai and Shikotan, just off the northern Japanese home Island of Hokkaido, and the two south Kurile Islands of Etorofu and Kunashiri.

The Soviet Union has agreed to return the Habomai and Shikotan to Japan when the two countries conclude a formal peace treaty. So far they have only a joint declaration of "normalization of relations" signed last October to end the State of War and restore trade relations.

The Russians refused even to discuss the fate of the two big Islands in the south Kuriles.

American Support

The United States note to Russia today said that the American government "support the Japanese government's contention that the Habomai group of Islands is an integral part of the national territory of Japan which the Soviet government continues to occupy illegally."

The United States denied that any wartime agreements "provide any justification for any territorial claim by any territory," particularly that mentioned. It said Soviet authorities accepted the Japanese surrender in those territories simply as agents of the Supreme Allied Commander, US General Douglas MacArthur.

The American note again challenged the Soviet Union to let some international tribunal decide the dispute.

Refused

It said: "The United States government notes again that the Soviet government has consistently failed and refused to submit the validity of its contentions in this regard to examination by established judicial process in the interest of the peaceful settlement of international disputes and of the maintenance of international law and order."—United Press.

The Count Is Never Out

Chapter 12

**THE
TITLED
CAT**

THE 1956 L.P. releases of the Count Basie Orchestra met with tremendous success. Not only were the Count's fans of old delighted, but the discs drew thousands of new followers. The sides proved time and again that Count believes that in good jazz the music must be danceable.

"If anyone were to ask who swells more than anyone else," says Norman Granz, "the man who arranged the sessions I mentioned, 'the chances are nine out of 10 would reply 'Count Basie.'"

SOLID

Basie never has to resort to crowd-fetching antics like marching 'up and down the aisles with his men, blowing to frantic riffs into the crowd' to get them worked up. He generates just as much excitement from pure music. Certainly a rare feel in these days when a honking tenor man, a bleethroated octopus-like 'singer,' and an over-amplified electric guitar are considered necessary to rouse the youngsters, by playing rock 'n' roll.

That Basie can be so successful in the midst of this morass of shamefully debased jazz, playing the way he wants to, regardless of public whim, is proof enough that the Count IS jazz, TRUE jazz.

His music retains much of the early, basic feeling of his big band. But it has absorbed new ideas. Blended them among well-established and trusted formulas. Until what has emerged is the best of two musical worlds.

For a man to make a comeback on the scale of Basie's at an age when many men are of fixed habits and ideas, is great indeed.

It remains to be seen if the Bill Haley and Elvis Presley of the music business will be heading in success when they are 50. It remains to be seen whether their contributions will even be remembered when they reach such an age.

Basie's music of 20 years ago and more is still respected and acclaimed by the discerning music lover. And there seems little reason to doubt that

20 years from now, his big band recordings will be held up as superb examples of thrilling arranging full of swinging, blinding jazz solos, as heart-warming as countless thousands find them today.

With the Count on these historic '55-'56 recordings are men of the calibre of Marshall Royal, alto, Ernie Wilkins, alto, Frank Foster, Frank Wess, Tenors, Charlie Fowlkes, baritone, Wendell Culey, Joe Newman, Reunald Jones and Thad Jones, trumpets, Henry Coker, Ben Powell, Bill Hughes, trombones, Freddie Green, piano, Eddie Jones, bass, and drummer Gus Johnson and Sonny Payne.

If any vocalist could suit the Basie band, Joe Williams does. Tall, sedate, gawking Joe has a terrific admiration for Basie. To sing with the band is the greatest delight for this boy from Cordova.

Joe spent most of his youth in another freight jazz city—Chicago. They say he is a "blue bawler." That he has a "ball" when he sings is Joe's reply to that one.

His singing of "Every Day" made that song the first genuine record hit to come Basie's way since 1941. It also made Joe's name.

Much of his singing style stems back to the days of Bessie Smith and Ma Rainey, and even beyond. His singing has an earthy quality found in so many of the old Negro blues shouters.

BIG

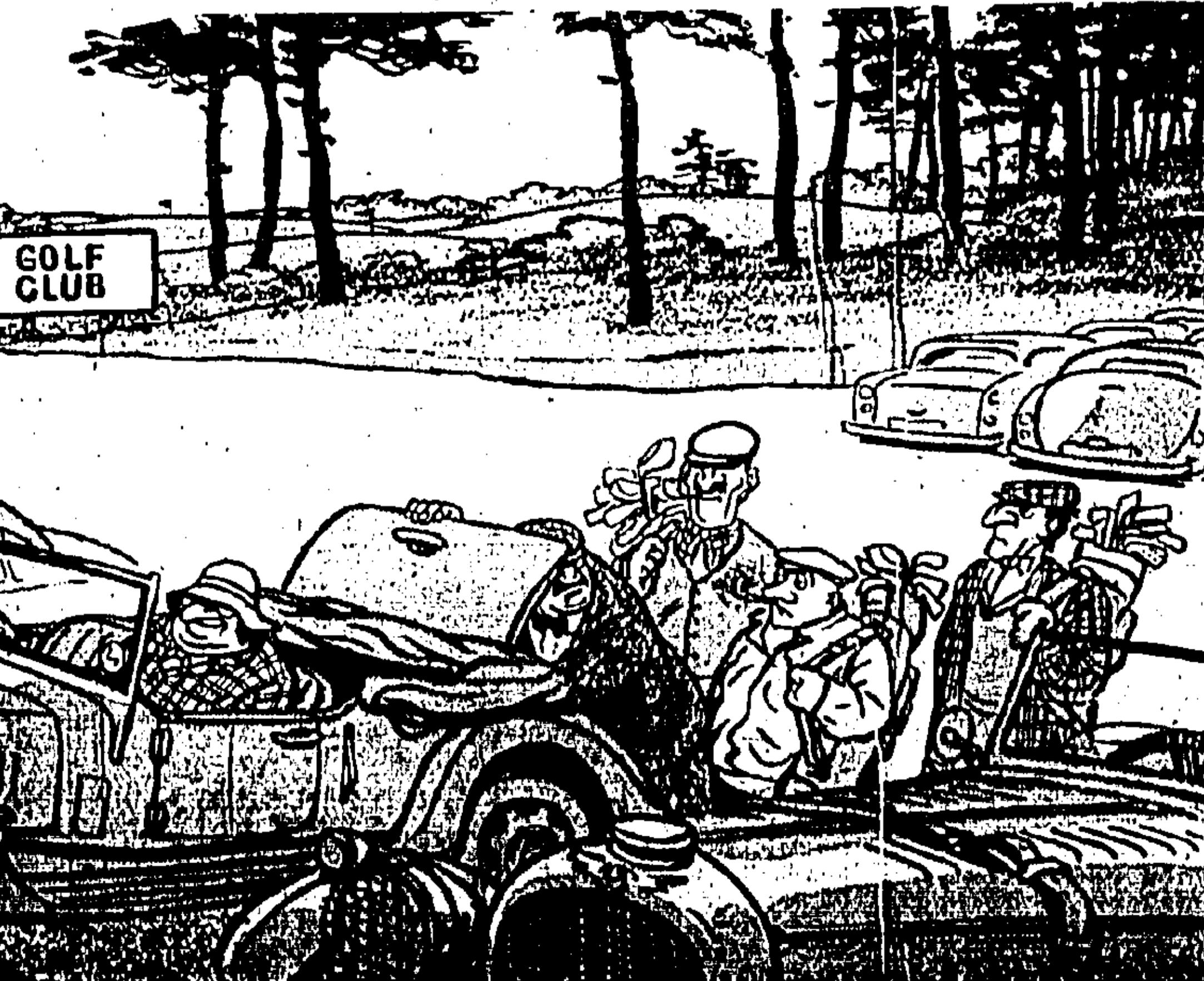
To make a hit out of a song sung in this manner illustrates the enormous appeal of the way Joe has adapted a wealth of blues history into his own unique phrasing and ideas. No one can be said to sing like Joe.

Other recorded songs by the Basie-Williams combination include "The Comeback," an apt title—"Roll 'em Pete," a rollicking re-hash of a number well-known to fans of boogie pianist Pete Johnson, "Teach me tonight," a popular ballad which lends itself to the swinging ideas of both men, "Alright, OK, You Win," and "My Baby Upsets me," written by Joe.

Perfect examples of finest kind of restrained ballad singing are spotlighted on "In the

END

by
Noel Wain



"Having got supplementary coupons for running my wife's poor old mother around for her health, the end of rationing presents a bit of a problem."

EMPIRE DAY—a date that rings with DESTINY

by Tom Stacey

KITCHEN TIME is sermon time FOR THE REV. ELSIE

I HAVE just met a woman missionary whose headquarters is one minute from Oxford Circus, and whose huge heathen flock is US. She has a congregation of 3,000,000 before eight in the morning, another 3,000,000 at "Five to Ten," and over 1,000,000 each Thursday at tea-time.

For the Rev. Elsie Chamberlain is the only ordained woman in the Religious Department at Broadcasting House, and produces six of the most popular religious programmes on sound and TV.

"I look on myself as a missionary because three-quarters of my listeners never go to church," she says logically.

But the Rev. Elsie Chamberlain was a disappointed listener.

"There were no ministerial results," she said sadly.

"She reaffirmed that there are no biblical and theological reasons why women should not be ordained, but they missed

out on the most vital point of all. Surely women have a sense of vocation and feel 'the call' just as men do. If this is so, they must be properly ordained."

Miss Chamberlain has very close ties with the Anglican Church. At work the Head of Religious Broadcasting is C of E (the second in command is always Free Churchman) and at home she becomes Mrs Garrington, wife of the Vicar of All Souls, Hampton.

The Rev. John Garrington is quite used to being married to an Anglican minister. I rang him rather nervously after lunch one Sunday, a time that was always reserved for my father's ministerial thoughts in the Methodist manse of my youth.

"You have not disturbed me at all," he answered cheerfully. "My wife is preaching in Devon this week-end, and I am just doing the washing up in a waterproof. The kitchen looks rather like Niagara."

But when the Head of the Congregational churches of England and Wales is at home, her wifely duties come first.

"When my husband and I are both writing sermons and the doorbell rings I am always the one who answers it," she said grimly.

This year she was the first woman to be elected chairman of all the Congregational Churches in England and Wales.

ROMANY BAIN

Lord Beaverbrook: Let us then refuse to be discouraged even though all our plans for the unity of the Empire have been rejected by the politicians and abandoned by the party leaders. In the words of the hymn dear to so many: "Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."

Up went "Muister Hunt's" little church in flames, and all his books, and down they went into ashes. But Hunt stayed on to build a new church.

Well, I can lie in bed with the flu (which is what I am doing now) and from this bedroom window I can look out across the wonderful sweeping valley of the East Sussex Downs to the parish of the Rev Robert Hunt.

It is the parish of Heathfield. You can still read Robert Hunt's entries in the yellowing parchment of the church register.

Founder

BUT "Muister Hunt" is at Heathfield no more. For in December 1900, the time of King James I, Robert Hunt sailed to the New World as one of the leaders of the first successful colonising expedition which even sailed from Britain.

So this neighbour Hunt turns out to be one of the founders of the British Empire. I do not know a great deal about Robert Hunt, except that on the second day after he reached Chesapeake Bay he began to build a church which had a sail for a roof.

In flames

THE other thing I know about Hunt is that when a ship at last arrived at Chesapeake Bay after the colonists had been fighting for survival for more than a year, one of the visiting sailors accidentally set fire to the whole encampment.

This is because they do not favour the word Empire. To them it smacks too much of the Roman way from which it is derived—imperial rule.

But how wrong are those nations to neglect the celebration of Empire Day for such a reason. For, once the governing hand of Britain is withdrawn, how much more vital does it become to maintain the other disciplines of Empire association.

Pilgrimage

NOW, on Friday week, May 24, I intend to make a short journey of homage across this green valley to Hunt's church.

For me, an East Sussex man, it might be called Hunt's Day.

To others, in different parts of

Britain, it might be Cook's Day,

or Wolfe's Day, or Banks' Day,

or Clive's Day, or Rhodes' Day.

But to us all will also be Empire Day. And when I get to Heathfield Church there will be more to pay homage to than "Muister Hunt." It will be the day to remember in my association with £600 million fellow members of the Empire.

There is not one person in Britain this morning who has not a personal duty towards this greatest brotherhood of nations of which we, whether we like it or not, are leaders.

The most challenging lesson I have learned while travelling about the world is how the countries of the Empire watch Britain minutely for her guidance, her example, and above all her interest in them. Too often they are disappointed.

Too often the feeling of the other members of the Empire about Britain's view of them can be summed up by the New Zealander who said: "Every so often somebody pops out here for 24 hours, nips back to Whitehall and says, 'It's all right, chaps, they are still there!'"

A chance

WHAT special part can you play on May 24? Well, you can fly the flag from your home. Or perhaps you can send a greeting telegram to your relatives living in a distant country under the Union Jack.

In one way or another you can make it the day to remember that our Empire has been built by the British tenacity, courage, vigour, and faith in God of the kind which made a man of Robert Hunt. And that by such end alone, it will be maintained.

It will be the chance for you to prove your loyalty to this Empire dedicated to brotherhood, peace, and civilisation.

You cannot ignore it. If you are not with it actively, you are actively against it.

Man of the Century

A MAN once asked George Mallory, one of the greatest of British mountaineers, why he bothered to climb mountains. He replied: "Because they are there."

Mallory climbed mountains because they were there. Because Everest was there, because it was the highest peak in the world, because he wanted to stand where no man had stood before... he died.

Clad in his English tweeds and Alpine hat, Mallory set out in 1924 to tackle the final heights of Everest and was never seen again.

It was nearly thirty years later when a young New Zealander set out in his footsteps. His story begins in the China Mail tomorrow, and appears daily.

Sir Edmund Hillary by Bryan Adams

He is calm, polite, fond of his job, and he's English

By SHELLEY ROHDE

GALINA Ulanova, prima ballerina of Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet, fell in love during her triumphant season in London last year.

Ulanova found "an image of a man. A man calm by nature, full of self-respect, fond of his job, polite and intelligent."

Who is he? "The ordinary Englishman."

The 40-year-old dancer tells of her affection for the average Englishman in her London Diary, just published in the Moscow monthly Soviet Literature.

She writes: "I fell in love with this Englishman and I am convinced that he is full of goodwill and friendliness to all people... that he hopes all the best and most beautiful qualities to be found in each nation can be preserved and added to if people will meet more often and get to know each other better. That means getting to like each other better."

"It was on the day of the Bolshoi's first performance in Britain that Ulanova wrote these words in her diary.

"But there was something much more important than the success of the final performance," she says. "That was our leave-taking... with the public

in the storm of applause was so violent that at one moment I felt so frightened I shrank back from the spotlight."

Keep your sugar dry!
EVEN IN THE DAMPEST WEATHER



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TAIKOO SUGAR

REFINED SINCE 1864

UNKNOWN AUSTRALIAN BEATS LEWIS HOAD IN FIVE-SET MATCH

A little known 20-year-old Australian player, Neal Gibson, today eliminated his world-famous compatriot, Lewis Hoad, in an exciting third round encounter for the French International Hard Court Tennis Championship.

Gibson, who was rated 10th Australian player last year, was not placed in this year's rating and had to play his way through a four-round elimination tournament to qualify for the men's singles proper.

After a first-round bye, Gibson had to fight hard yesterday to gain a five-set second-round victory over Llamas of Mexico, but today he played a calm, well-thought-out game to pull up from two sets down and beat the world's leading amateur player, Lewis Hoad, in five sets.

For Hoad, who won the French title last year, it was defeat at the first hurdle. He had received a bye and then a walkover into round three.

Gibson's match-winning weapon was his two-handed back hand, played like a cricket stroke. Time and again he tested off against passing shots with it and for some unaccountable reason Hoad never seemed to bore into the net, against the stroke.

The centre court crowd was bussed by the fascinating duel. Probably the spectators believed that Hoad's tremendous experience would get him out of trouble.

But Gibson continued to play like a champion. When on match point he fired across a two-handed drive to the corner and Hoad's attempted return floated out of court.

Gibson on three hits racket high in the air, reached skywards and leapt the net to smash hands with the beaten champion.

BACK INJURY

Hoad played a confident, brilliant game to win the first two sets against Gibson without difficulty and the spectators were all set for an easy three-set victory for last year's Paris and Wimbledon Champion, who was seeded number one this year despite the fact that he is still suffering from a back-injury.

In the third set, however, Gibson attacked all the time and frequently caught Hoad on the wrong foot with his accurate double-handed back-hand volleys and his back-hand cross-court returns placed near the outside lines.

Gibson kept up a steady pressure to win the third and fourth sets and equalise at two sets all.

In an awed and respectful silence, the 2,000 odd spectators watched Gibson take a 3-1 and then 4-2 lead in the last decisive set. Hoad took risk, rushed to the net, ran for every ball and put terrible power into his returns.

But Gibson faced up to the onslaught and time and again won the point with his magic backhand volley. He led at 5-3 and 6-4, and finally won out on his service at 6-4.

A SETBACK

British tennis received a setback when Michael Davies, top man in Britain's Davis Cup

team, tumbled headlong to a 6-4, 0-3, 6-1, defeat against Belgium's Philippe Washer.

Third round matches took

survivors into the last sixteen but only eight of them were decided today.

Those who reached this stage

included Kurt Nielsen,

Paul Jolbert (France) 1-6, 6-3, 6-2, 7-5.

Gerard Pilet and Marc Lassry (France) beat Jean-Pierre Bergeat (France) and Jaroslav Drobny (Egypt) 9-7, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.

Mike Davies and Robert Wilson (Britain) beat J. Gulyas (Hungary) 7-5, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

Jackie Driehaus and Philippe Washer (Belgium) beat Philippe Denau and Claude Lessage (France) 6-2, 6-1, 7-9, 6-4.

Gordan Forbes and Abe Segal (South Africa) beat Andreu Hammerly (Chile) and E. Martínez (Spain) 6-3, 7-5.

Sergio Jacobini (Italy) and Vladislav Skonecki (Poland) beat H. Barrett and Billy Knight (Britain) 10-8, 6-3, 6-3.

Robert Howe (Australia) and Harry Schwartz (USA) beat A. Arribalzaga and A. Gimeno (Spain) 6-3, 7-5, 6-1.

Neal Gibson and Warren Webcock (Australia) beat N. Nicolai and Popovic (Yugoslavia) 6-2, 6-1, 6-1.

Naresh Kumar and Ramathun Krishnan (India) beat A. Polafax and Reyes (Mexico) 5-7, 8-6, 6-1, 14-12.

THE RESULTS

Men's Doubles—second round

Malcolm Anderson and Ashley Cooper (Australia) beat B. Bazin and M. Schaff (France) 7-5, 6-4, 6-2.

Kurt Nielsen and Torben Ulrich (Denmark) beat Henry Monnot (France) 6-1, 6-2, France Proesse and Reuler.

Herbie Flan and Budgie Patty (USA) beat M. Alvarez (Colombia) and C. Koenig (South Africa) by a walkover.

J. Vasbø and A. Adam (Hungary) beat R. Begard (Canada) and P. Nichols (New Zealand) 6-2, 6-2, 7-5.

H. Hitler and P. Schott (Germany) beat Robert Halley and

LEWIS HOAD

Dane who put out Drobny yesterday, Herbie Flan (United States) and Gibson.

Women's singles—second round

Madame Suzie Kormoczi (Hungary) beat Madame R. Gaudet (France) 6-5, 6-1.

Madame Gisette Bucaille (France) beat Mademoiselle C. Monnot (France) 6-1, 6-2, France Proesse and Reuler.

Mrs. Witz (former Jeannette Altweig) is seen here romping with her two young sons, Tony David, aged 20 months, and Duri Jon, aged nine months — on the lawn at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Altweig, in Southport.

Mrs. Witz, who now lives in Switzerland, is having a two month's holiday in Britain; she expects to return to Switzerland at the end of May.

Former World and Olympic Figure Skating Champion, Mrs. Witz turned down a £2,000-a-week offer to turn professional after winning a Gold Medal at the 1952 Winter Olympics. She was married in October 1954 to a Swiss civil engineer who is at present doing an extended annual period of military service.—Reuterphoto.

Ice queen into radiantly happy mother. That's the transformation that British friends of 20-year-old Mrs. Mare Witz (the former Jeannette Altweig) are now seeing at first hand.

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NOTICE

THE HONGKONG ROPE
MANUFACTURING
CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Sixty-Eighth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the office of Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd., 701 Edinburgh House, Hongkong, on Friday, 7th June, 1957, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December, 1956, and to transact the ordinary business of the Company.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from Friday, 24th May, 1957 until Friday, 7th June, 1957 both days inclusive.

By Order of the
Board of Directors
**SHEWAN TOMES &
CO., LTD.**

E. G. SMITH-WRIGHT
Director
General Manager
Hongkong, 1st May, 1957.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"AGAPENOR"
Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Baynes-Dovey at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on May 25 and 27, 1957, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWINE,
Agents,
Hong Kong, May 23, 1957.

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THE BRITISH HANGMAN

Post Now Almost A Sinecure With New Law

By WALTER DAVIS

London, May 23.—The job of public hangman in Britain has become almost a sinecure now that the death sentence has been abolished for all but a few categories of murder.

A government spokesman has estimated that the hangman will in future be called up only about three or four times a year.

From the end of World War II until February 1950 when the House of Commons passed a motion urging the Government to abolish the death penalty, the annual average of hangings was 15.

No criminal has been hanged since the House of Commons voted. All murderers have been reprieved by the Home Secretary, their sentences being mostly commuted to life imprisonment.

The Government decided to change the law of murder after the House of Lords had rejected a private member's bill to do away with hanging which had already been replaced by the gallows.

As Mr. Pierrepont went into the cell, the prisoner sprang to his feet and cried at the executioner. He fought with everything he had and it took him time to get him to the scaffold.

Mr. Pierrepont once hanged 17 men in a day—all war criminals, in Germany.

He hanged Haigh, the acid bath killer, Heath, the sex maniac, Christie, the Notting Hill multiple murderer, and Ruth Ellis the young night club hostess, who shot her lover.

Now he has retired and devotes all his time to an inn which he runs near Preston, in Lancashire.

Grave and taciturn as a hangman, Mr. Pierrepont is jolly and humorous as an innkeeper. A notice in his bar says: "No hanging around here"—which always amuses curious visitors who go to see what a hangman looks like.—China Mail Special.

The executioner today has an easy time compared with his predecessor of long ago. In the reign of King Henry VIII (1509-1547), for example, about 2,000 persons were executed by hanging or shooting or beheading alone.

During that reign and in the next 200 years, visitors to Britain were amazed by the number of public executions, which were regarded as much as public entertainment as a football match is today. Large crowds gathered round the gallows and high prices were charged for front seats. Thousands of visitors, too, paid to look at the condemned man in his cell.

In the early 19th century, no fewer than 200 offences were still punishable by death. People were executed for such trivial crimes as cutting down a tree. The judge, passing sentence on a man found guilty of this crime at Chelmsford, in Essex, in 1814, commented that a man who would cut down a tree would kill a man.

In 1811, a London judge objected to the abolition of the death penalty for picking pocket, though offenders could still be hanged for setting fire to a haystack or stealing more than one shilling (though the penalty for this was usually transportation for life).

Reform

Gradually, however, with increasing pressure for reform, the death penalty was abolished for cattle, horse and sheep stealing in 1832, for house-breaking in 1833, for larceny by post office employees in 1836, and for拐手 in 1837. In 1861, it was abolished for all felonies except treason, murder, piracy with violence and cutting down dockyards and arsenals. These are actually still capital offences today, though no one has been hanged for the last two for many years.

Executions in public were stopped in 1868. They now take place privately in the prison.

Between 1832, Parliament abolished capital punishment for all persons under the age of 18.

Lord Kilmar, the Lord Chancellor who is head of the judiciary, told the House of Lords just before the latest changes in the murder law that the Government was prepared to abolish hanging as a means of execution if some more humane methods could be found.

Mr. Albert Pierrepont, Britain's chief hangman for many years, thinks that there is no better method. The way it is done in Britain, he says, is "quick, certain and humane."

Ferd'nand



By MIKE



By ERNIE BUSHMILLER



By FRANK ROBBINS

HK Insurance Company Cuts Share Units

(Continued from Page 10)

1957 each of the 200,000 shares of £10 each in the Capital of the Society will be divided into 10 shares of £1 each.

"As mentioned in my state-

ment at the previous time our

shares are one of the most ex-

pensive insurance shares in the

world. It is felt by your

Directors that a split of each

£10 share into ten £1 shares

will enhance the popularity of

the Society and widen its list

of shareholders.

"It is not anticipated that this

alteration in the Society's

capital structure will have any

effect upon our policy towards

payment of dividends.

"I have pleasure in proposing

the adoption of the Resolution

and shall be obliged if a share-

holder will kindly second the

motion."

Mr. N. V. A. Croucher

seconding, said: "The Board's

proposal to sub-divide the So-

ciet's shares will be welcomed

by shareholders, particularly

the small investor who can add

to his portfolio when he has a spare

£100.00."

"You, Sir, point out in your

statement that Unions are

among the highest priced in-

surance Company shares, and

this, I think, has tended to re-

strict the number of share-

holders. I am confident a large

increase in shareholders will

result from the sub-division,

and some benefit will accrue

to the Society."

"With these few remarks, Mr.

Chairman, I have pleasure in

seconding your proposal."

The Resolution was put to the

voting and carried

unanimously.

Present were the Hon. C.

Blaker (Chairman), Messrs. B.

T. Flanagan, G. M. Goldsack

H. Owen Hughes, J. F. Mac-

gregor (Directors), L. B. Stone

(General Manager), D. B. Sin-

clair (Assistant General Man-

ager), A. Abraham, R. S. Barry,

D. Benson, A. W. Black, Mrs.

L. D. Blaker, J. L. Bonnar, J.

L. Bray, T. H. G. Braydon,

T. W. K. Chun, N. V. A.

Croucher (representing Kelly &

Walsh Ltd.), P. Dunt, Mrs. E.

H. Flanagan (representing China

Properties Ltd.), S. M. Garrard,

H. M. C. Gooch, S. S. Gordon

(representing Corrie Hill & J.

Matthews), J. H. Corrie Hill, J.

K. H. Garrard (representing Po-

ter Marwick Mitchell & Co.), K. W.

Kong, J. B. H. Lockie, C. W

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

TELEPHONES BEST PERFORMERS

Practically No Fluctuations In Quiet Week

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Hongkong Stock Exchange closed on a steady note yesterday with practically no fluctuations except in telephones during the week.

There was, however, slight profit-taking on Tuesday but this fizzled out quickly and since then the market has been quiet.

The turnover for the week was \$3.68 million, just under a million less than the previous week. The tally was seven higher, six unchanged and eleven lower, compared with 15 higher, four unchanged and five lower the previous week.

Telephones were the best gainers of the week closing on a quote of \$27.40, an increase of 80 cents. The rise in telephones, according to brokers yesterday, may be due to an offer to sell Oriental Telephone and Electric Company in London.

Gather Strength

Oriental Telephone own a block of Hongkong Telephone shares and if the company is sold the stock might be put on the Hongkong Market. If, however, the shares never reach the open market, it is expected telephones will continue to gather strength.

The other gainer in the utility section was tram, which added on 20 cents to close at

New York Sugar Market

New York, May 23. World No. 4 sugar futures closed today unchanged to 8 points higher with sales of 800 contracts.

The domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed unchanged to 2 points lower with sales of 22 contracts.

Trade covering bolstered the nearby deliveries while the new crop months eased slightly, the lower raw situation attracted scattered offerings.

Dealers understood Ceylon today bought a cargo of Brazilian raws while East Germany overnight, a buyer of a cargo of British refined, while Spain was believed a buyer of either raws, or refined, from Brazil. Finland purchased a cargo of Brazilian raws.

Contract No. 4 (world)

July	6.78-79
September	6.78-79
October	6.78-79
March	4.51
May	4.49
June	4.49
September	4.50
Spots (cents per lb. fob Cuba) 5.72	
Open interest: 8,790 contracts	

Contract No. 6 (domestic)

July	5.94
September	5.94
November	5.97
March	5.97
Spots (cents per lb. fob NY) 5.05	
Open interest: 8,790 contracts	

United Press

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

Our Own Correspondent

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to approximately \$344,000. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

Shares Buyers Sellers Sales

BANKS JHK Bank .. 1,600 20 Q 1,600

INSURANCES Union XD .. 800

SHIPPING Wheelock .. 7.35 7.40 0000 Q 7.40

DOCKS, ETC. HK Wharf .. 105 100

Providence .. 13.10 13.20

LAND, ETC. HK Land .. 15.40 15.60

JHK Land (Hk) .. 35% 36%

Hungipura .. 10.40 10.50

Really 1.40 1.30

RUBBER Ansig. 1.50 1.00 700 Q 1.14

UTILITIES Tuen .. 22% 22.00 100 Q 22.20

Star .. 100 100 22.70

C. Light (O) .. 102 103 200 Q 101.40

Electric .. 30 30% 700 Q 30.30

Macao E. .. 9.80 10 800 Q 9.80

Telephone .. 27.30 27.60 0000 Q 27.40

1000 Q 27.40

1000 Q 27.40

INDUSTRIALS Cement .. 33% 33% 000 Q 33.30

STEEL, ETC. Tuen .. 44% 44% 000 Q 44.00

Western .. 17.70 17.80

COTTON Tuan .. 4.01% 4.07% 0.00

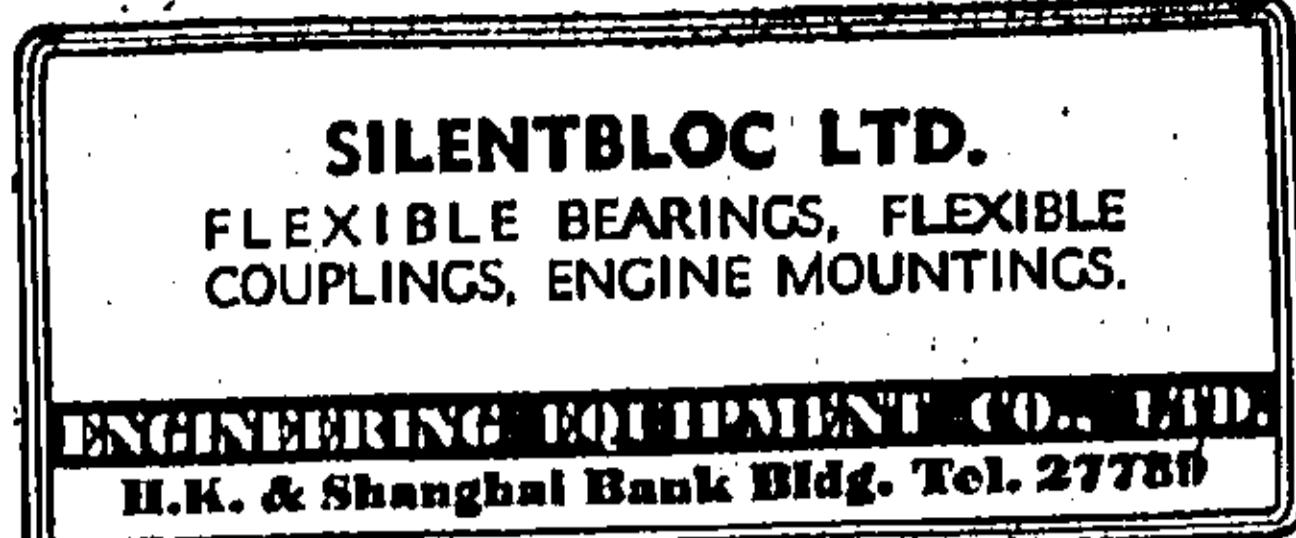
Miscellaneous Direct .. 50%

INVESTMENTS Bonds .. 1.15

Allied .. 4.47%

NAMESAKES

Answers—1. Desdemona, 2. Treasury, 3. Theatrical, 4. Venice, 5. Jealousy, 6. Elizabeth, 7. Moor, Othello.



CHINA MAIL

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FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1957.

SHEAFFER'S

ADMIRAL SNORKEL PEN

Magistrate Grants Request

When Oscar Angulo, 28-year-old Mexican, appeared before Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning pleading guilty to possession of heroin, he asked to be dealt with leniently, adding that he had to support three children.

He said when he was caught on the roof of 141, Connaught Road Central, on Wednesday, he was only holding a heroin pipe and did not smoke.

The Magistrate was told that Angulo had two previous convictions in 1951 and 1953 but not for similar offences. Mr Lo imposed a fine of \$100 or 16 days.

"Your Honour," pleaded Angulo on hearing the penalty, "can you give me a chance? Can you please fine me \$75. You see, I've only got \$75 with me."

"Yes, please," replied Angulo.

"Alright," the Magistrate said. "I'll fine you \$50 or 10 days."

"Thank you," said Angulo, as he was conducted away from the dock.

Today's Gazzeted Appointments

The promotion of Mr N. G. Rolph, Superintendent of Police, to the rank of Senior Superintendent of Police, was announced in the Government Gazette this morning.

Other appointments, transfers, promotions and postings listed in the Gazette were:

Mr W. S. Sharp, Building Surveyor, Public Works Department, to be Acting Assistant Chief Building Surveyor; Mr Andrew Mat, Engineer, Public Works Department, to be Acting Assistant Chief Engineer.

Mr W. Rees, Assessor, Inland Revenue Department, to be Acting Chief Assessor.

Mr Henry Christian Brown to be Superintendent of Lights, Marine Department.

Mr Derek Roy Harris, Sub-inspector of Police, to be Acting Assistant Superintendent of Police.

Mr W. S. T. Louey to a Member of the Traffic Advisory Committee during the absence of Mr C. F. Wood.

Over Inch Of Rain

The Hongkong Royal Observatory recorded a total rainfall of 1.33 inches from 1 a.m. to noon today.



TO-DAY AT



White Pebble Point
With a Tyrolean Trim!

Pretty white cover-up to pair with slim skirts... trimmed with red shoulder caps and white belt. Fully lined with black rayon and little white heart-buttons to add the finishing touch. Pebble point is a dip n' dry, no-iron cotton.

Motion Seconded

Seconding, Mr G. R. Ross said: "It is an usual pleasure to listen to the annual summary of our affairs given by our Chairman covering as they do successful operations on a world-wide scale.

"We have come to expect continual solid progress and again, this year is no exception, the increase in net premium as compared with 1955 being in the region of one and a quarter million pounds which is really a considerable achievement.

"The Chairman in his speech remarked that we have to look back to 1947 to find a lower net profit than for 1955. Having read the reports of a number of other insurance companies I am of the opinion that we can feel well satisfied with our results.

"The split in value of the shares is a welcome move which will enable a wider range of shareholders in future to take an interest in the Society should they so wish."

Excellent progress in the acquisition of new sources of business was reported by the Hon. C. Blaker, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., at the Society's annual general meeting this morning.

The past year, Mr Blaker stated, heralded the approach of a new era in the use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes and the Society had entered the field of insurance in this regard along with other insurance companies.

The meeting, held in the Head Office of the Society at Alexandra House, also passed a resolution calling for the 200,000 shares of £10 each in the Capital to be divided into 10 shares of £1 each.

Statement Amplified

Mr Blaker said:

"The Report, Revenue Accounts and Balance Sheet for 1956 were issued on May 9 and you will have had an opportunity to peruse these and to examine the figures. Following usual custom and subject to your agreement, I propose to take the Report of the Directors as read."

"My statement upon the Society's affairs accompanying the printed Accounts deals with matters mainly affecting our business during 1956. But I would like to amplify that statement to some extent."

"Our business is a highly competitive one and the salient feature of the operations during the past year is the excellent progress made in the acquisition of new sources of business. Taking our three Revenue Accounts together, our total income has risen by £1,328,239 which, I am sure you will agree, is no mean achievement under present conditions. It is our policy to take advantage of every opportunity which presents itself to expand our portfolio of business within the sphere of sound underwriting practice."

Looking Back

"We have to look back 10 years to 1947 to find a year when our net profit was lower than the figure of £354,727 shown in the Consolidated Profit and Loss Account now before you. In that year our total premium amounted to well under £54 million whereas in 1956 the corresponding figure was over £12 million. Shareholders will appreciate the immense progress illustrated by these figures, which also emphasise the effects of competition upon the profit margin."

Fire Claims

The Fire claims ratio at 47.91 per cent of premiums was 1.47 per cent higher than that for 1955.

In the Accident and General

Account the claims ratio to premiums has increased from 54.10 per cent to 61.31 per cent.

The main reason for this increase is, as you will have noted from my statement accompanying the accounts, largely due to the adverse experience in the transaction of Motor insurance.

"It is the opinion of your Directors that after taking into account the temporary strain caused by our substantial claim expansion and the difficult experience worldwide by Insurance Companies, the Group has had a not unsatisfactory year.

"Industrial development calls for the introduction of new forms of insurance and 1956 heralded the approach of a new era in the use of nuclear power for peaceful purposes. The erection and operation of nuclear reactors present a field of insurance for damage and liability risks in which the Society has entered along with other Insurance Companies. The agreed underwriting system is for Insurers to combine together to share the heavy liabilities involved. Our share of this business is by participation in the Pools of Insurance Companies organised in London for Home and Foreign risks and also in the Pool organised in the United States of America for risks in that territory.

Staff Matters

"Turning to Staff matters, our Head Office Inspector, Mr J. H. M. Andrew retired at the end of January this year, and in the course of the next few weeks the Fire Manager, Mr S. M. Garrard will be retiring after more than 37 years' service with the Society. Mr C. Maclean, the Marine Manager, sailed for England on retirement earlier this month.

"I am sure you will join me in extending to them our best wishes for many happy years of well deserved rest in their new environment. To those who replace them at Head Office we wish all success.

"With these remarks I formally move the adoption of the Report, Revenue Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Society, as presented, and that the Directors' recommendations be confirmed. I would ask a shareholder to second the motion after which I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability."

Motion Seconded

Seconding, Mr G. R. Ross said: "It is an usual pleasure to listen to the annual summary of our affairs given by our Chairman covering as they do successful operations on a world-wide scale.

"We have come to expect continual solid progress and again, this year is no exception, the increase in net premium as compared with 1955 being in the region of one and a quarter million pounds which is really a considerable achievement.

"The Chairman in his speech remarked that we have to look back to 1947 to find a lower net profit than for 1955. Having read the reports of a number of other insurance companies I am of the opinion that we can feel well satisfied with our results.

"The split in value of the shares is a welcome move which will enable a wider range of shareholders in future to take an interest in the Society should they so wish."

I take this opportunity of thanking the Directors, General Manager and Staff for their continuing care of our interests and now have pleasure in seconding the motion that the Report, Revenue Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Society as presented be adopted and that the Directors' recommendations be confirmed."

The motion was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Re-elections

Mr G. M. Goldsack was re-elected to the Board of Directors on the proposal of Mr A. W. Black, seconded by Mr G. B. S. Thomson.

Mr H. Owen-Hughes was also re-elected to the Board, on the proposal of Mr J. H. Setch, seconded by Mr T. H. G. Brayfield.

Messrs Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, and Messrs Pent, Marwick, Mitchell and Co. were re-appointed auditors at a remuneration of \$10,000 per annum. This was proposed by Mr W. W. McKenzie, seconded by Mr E. Abramson.

The Chairman then said:

Share Division

The next business of the Meeting is to consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution:

"That with effect from and including the 29th day of May (Contd. on Page 8, Col. 7)

Made False Declaration

Chiu Sze-pang, 28, clerk, of Room 411, Hongkong Hotel building, was fined \$750 by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning, for making a false declaration at the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Imposing the fine, Mr Lo said the offence was a serious one. He added that Hongkong was an entrepot and the D. C. and I. I. had to watch the growth of Hongkong industry, which also affected the defendant. "If Hongkong loses its reputation, the 'boomerang' will come against you."

Revenue Insp. L. Dunning prosecuting, said in a declaration made in support of an application, for a certificate of origin, the defendant had stated that 500 dozens of children's shirts were made of rayon whereas, in fact, they were made of cotton.

Pleading guilty to the charge, Mr David Szeto, of Musers Brutons, representing the defendant, said the defendant had signed the declaration the particulars of which had been filled in by the manufacturers of the shirts. The defendant had pleaded guilty as he had signed the document.

Mr Szeto said the mistake was made entirely by the manufacturer.

The defendant, he said, had a bona fide export and had no intention whatsoever to make a false declaration.

ESCAPING CHARGES

Chiang Su, 20, was remanded until tomorrow by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning on a charge of escaping from prison.

He was alleged to have escaped from Chi Ma Wan Prison, Lantau Island, on May 10, while being a prisoner undergoing a six months' sentence passed on April 26 upon conviction on a charge of being a third society member.

A second defendant, Wong Kai, 27, charged with a similar offence, was remanded until this afternoon. He was alleged to have escaped from the Chi Ma Wan Prison yesterday when serving a sentence of eight months for possession of a house-breaking instrument.

The split in value of the shares is a welcome move which will enable a wider range of shareholders in future to take an interest in the Society should they so wish.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"Miss Bixby, you wouldn't have to be looking out the window so much these nice sunny days if you'd take us on a picnic!"

GOODWILL ENVOY ARRIVES FROM JAPAN

Nagoya's "Goodwill Envoy to the World's Major Ports", Mr Isao Ito, arrived in Hongkong this morning on board the Atsuta Maru in the course of a world tour in celebration of the golden jubilee of the opening of the Port of Nagoya.

Mr Ito, a Special Correspondent of the Club Nippon Press of Nagoya said the main purpose of the mission was to promote international trade relations between Nagoya and other major ports in the world.

He has brought with him to Hongkong messages of goodwill and souvenirs from the Mayor, Port Authority and Chamber of Commerce of the City of Nagoya to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, the Director of Marine and the Chamber of Commerce.

Beautiful Port

Mr Ito said he thought Hongkong was beautiful as a port and the centre of Far East Trade. He is going to write articles on the various ports he visits at mail them back to Japan.

His itinerary includes Keelung, Hongkong, Singapore, Aden, Port Sudan, Suez, Port Said, Alexandria, Genoa, Marseilles, Valencia, Tangier, Casablanca, London, Liverpool and Hamburg.

Mr Ito said the tour has been sponsored by the Port Authority of Nagoya as part of the celebrations of the opening of Nagoya as a port 50 years ago on November 10, 1907.

HE Gives Assent To Medical Bill

Supplement No. 1 to this morning's Government Gazette announced that His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, has given assent to the Ordinance to repeal and to re-enact, with amendment, the Medical Registration Ordinance, Chapter 161.

The announcement said that the Ordinance, which was given its final reading and passed into law with eight amendments at a Legislative Council meeting on Wednesday, will come into force on June 1.

The announcement further stated that Section 27 of the Ordinance "shall come into operation on a day to be appointed by the Governor by Proclamation in the Gazette."

OUR BOUFFANT BOUQUET...

Flowers shower R & K's Westminster lawn charmer... it's cooling bodice boasts provoking bows, tiny tufts and an icing of dainty foliage... the full skirt flutters with every summer breeze!

Stay fresh and fair in Dacron and cotton... For frocks made of "Dacron" shuns wrinkles, stays neat and starchy-new, and keeps upkeep down. Just set and drip-dry. At most, there's little ironing!

JUST UNPACKED...
dream-shaped
"Truly" swimsuits

... curved in the right places, sleek in the right places, slim in the middle and exciting around and neckline as the newest "Givenchy" inspired perfect-fitting suits in latex-powered fabric and cotton prints.

R & K Originals,
Mode Elite
22, Queen's Road C, Hongkong.

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